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there is no new light to be obtained on these from the existing material. Certainly the author has neglected none of this, and has not disregarded the problem. These besides were not the real matters of importance in Henry's career. Motives are less important historically than actions ; and these Mr. Kingsford has given in a full, interesting and clear narrative. The book can be heartily praised, except that we should like to have seen the author refrain from giving to his subject a fanciful position as "the typical mediæval hero," and ascribe to him his true significance as a firm administrator of the old balanced English constitution of king and three estates, a brilliant leader of the nascent national feeling of England in the war against France, a conscientious king carrying out a clear if not very broad idea of his duty in that office.

E. P. CHEYNEY.

Charles le Téméraire et la Ligue de Constance. Par E. TOUTEY.

(Paris : Hachette. 1902. Pp. 475.)

THE scope of M. Toutey's book is broader than its title. What lies nearest his heart is neither the fortunes of Charles of Burgundy nor those of the League of Constance, but the beginnings, a score of years before the French invasion of Italy, of a European balance of power and of international congresses ; and what he has really given us is scarcely less than a diplomatic history of central Europe in the time of Charles the Bold. Yet a diplomatic history only. Of military history, save as incident to diplomacy, one learns little more than of society or institutions, of letters or of art. Even Grandson and Morat are despatched with less than a page apiece, and with a vagueness in striking contrast to the graphic narrative of a Delbrück or a Kirk.

Though it is now nearing two score years since John Foster Kirk gave to the press his *Charles the Bold*, the American's is still the one biography of the great Burgundian ; but in the interval a multitude of special studies have thrown light upon one or another episode of his career, and scholars have unearthed not a few documents which escaped the patient search of his biographer. Of this newer literature, as of the older, M. Toutey has made a wide and thorough use attested not less by his text than by the half-dozen pages of his appended bibliography. Reassuring to the English reader is the respect he still shows to the book of Mr. Kirk ; yet point of view and results could hardly be more antipodal. Nor can this be charged wholly to the anti-Burgundian sympathies natural to a French scholar ; for his facile use of German sources and the excellent temper with which he can discuss an Alsace and Lorraine still imperial, show, on the whole, a rare absence of chauvinism. Nay, when he once slips as to the allegiance of a province, it is to aver (p. 200, note) that "la plus grande partie de la Flandre relevait de l'empire."

Hear, then, his estimate of Charles (p. 70, note) :

"It is well known that his contemporaries called him Charles le Hardi until 1472, then Charles le Terrible after his campaign of Nesle, Beauvais, Rouen, and finally Charles le Téméraire in the last years of his life, 'when

he seems' says Comines, 'no longer to have had his understanding so clear.' In truth he was always ambitious, brutal, cruel (Dinant, Liège, Nesle), and little scrupulous in the choice of means (affairs of Péronne, of Guelders) ; but in the first part of his life he liked to parade political probity and chivalric sentiments, and in fact his treachery was not excessive for the age, his cruelty and his hate gratified themselves indeed only against his foes (the burghers of the towns, the King of France), or perhaps in cases where he had in view an evident advantage or where the victim to some extent deserved his fate (Louis XI., Adolf of Guelders). After 1473 his hate is yet more savage (Étienne de Hagenbach at Belfort, the garrison at Grandson), and his knavery is profitless. One could then believe that he did evil for evil's sake, as if out of a sort of vindictiveness toward mankind in general ; it is, in fact, that he is avenging himself for having been deceived, not only by his enemies, like Louis XI., but by his friends (the Emperor at Treves, the King of England at Picquigny, Sigismund at Constance, etc.), and that, on the other hand, his schemes have so lifted him above the earth that he loses footing, that he is attacked by a veritable madness, *la folie des grandeurs.*"

Nay, M. Toutey will not even grant him military genius. Despite his personal bravery and his skill as a drill-sergeant, "the truth is that he had the same military conceptions as his ancestor, King John the Good : to march against the foe and fight him face to face—*mais on n'en était plus là à la fin du 15^e siècle*" (p. 324, note). Nor was he a statesman, but only an ambitious prince, haunted with memories of the Middle Ages, who still confused the idea of the state with that of property and believed that nation could be added to nation like field to field ; while Louis of France, the Swiss cantons, the Alsatian towns, the Duke of Lorraine, "represent a principle essentially modern, that whereby every group of men having the same customs, the same aspirations, has a right to live and develop by itself, according to its own tastes and genius." Verily, this is to see them with modern eyes.

The book abounds in terse summaries and happy general views. Two maps and an appendix of documents add to its usefulness. Alas, the volume has no index.

GEORGE L. BURR.

The Italian Renaissance in England. Studies. By LEWIS EINSTEIN.

[Columbia University Studies in Comparative Literature.]
(New York : The Columbia University Press ; The Macmillan Co., Agents. 1902. Pp. 420.)

THIS work is the latest issue in a series which includes a history of literary criticism in the Renaissance, together with volumes on the classical heritage of the Middle Ages and Spanish literature in the England of the Tudors. The present volume, like its predecessors, deals not with the technicalities of literary form, but with wider aspects of intellectual life and expression. The exact scope of the work is perhaps not at once apparent from the title, owing to the ambiguity of the term Renaissance.